

# Pierce steps down from Airport Board

*Jo Bob Pierce  
has served since 2008*

**BY JOSH JONES**  
SENTINEL NEWS STAFF

MT. VERNON — Memories were shared and thanks was given as the members of Mt. Vernon Outland Airport Board of Commissioners said

goodbye to one of their own.

During Tuesday's meeting, it was announced that Commissioner Joe Bob Pierce would be stepping down due to health related reasons.

"One of our senior board members is going to be leaving us," stated board chairman Mike Ancona, "and the sad part is I hate to see him go. His contributions to this board, to the stability of the airport and everything that goes on here has been un-

measurable. And we just really appreciate everything you have done, the support you have been, the encouragement that you have surrendered to all of us and the leadership that you have also put forth."

He continued, "On behalf of the community and Mt. Vernon Airport, Jo Bob Pierce we are going to miss you."

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**FAREWELL — FROM LEFT, Airport Commissioners Gary Chesney, Eddle Lee, Jo Bob Pierce, Airport Director Chris Collins, Board Chairman Mike Ancona and Commissioner Ryan Wellmaker all thanked Pierce for his contributions to the board after it was announced that he would be stepping down during Tuesday's meeting at Mt. Vernon Outland Airport.**

## Airport:

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Pierce had been with the board since 2008, and he reflected on his time with the board.

"I would like to say that I have enjoyed working on the board. The board we have had has been a good board," Pierce said. "I really feel that the board has over the last few years has really pushed the airport."

Pierce also shared his appreciation to the board after the announcement.

"I lived here the whole time and really did not fully realize how much the airport really contributes to this city, this community and the communities around us. It is just amazing," Pierce said. "And I don't think the people realize how much it is. And I have appreciated being on the board with everybody. It has been fun in a lot of ways."

Several board members in-

cluding Commissioner Ryan Wellmaker commended Pierce for his work.

"Joe, I haven't been on the board too long, but what little time I have been, I really appreciated serving with you. You will be missed," Wellmaker said.

Pierce's final day on the board will be July 30, making Tuesday his last meeting.

"It has been a pleasure for me. I have really enjoyed it," Pierce said.

According to Airport Director Chris Collins, the opening on the board will be filled through an appointment by the city.

### IN OTHER BUSINESS:

- The board discussed a new event known as "Touch the Truck" coming to the airport.

- The replacement of the old airport entrance sign with a new sign was suggested.

- Bid specs for repairing one of three overflows for the airport lake project were detailed.

- The board approved the purchase of a fuel truck for \$93,690 and \$1,400 to deliver the truck.

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